

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claims 8 and 14 distinguish over all of the prior art of record for reasons of record, especially addressed in the Appeal Brief and the Board of Appeals Decision. The claims additionally distinguish over newly cited JP 3-32729 and accompanying translation in view of recitation of there being "elements (plural) for "each of said openings" (of filter body), whose state relative to filter openings vary under the influence of heat of medium. JP '729 teaches a filtering body having filter and it's filter openings covered by a single macromolecular chain substance element having pores that overlap the filter openings, the pores of the element changing shape and size under the influence of heat of medium passing therethrough. However '729 does not suggest distinct different elements for different filter pores/openings. Other prior art is made of record showing the general state of the prior art concerning dishwashers having screen-like filters for claim 14.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

JWD
9/23/2010
/Joseph W. Drodge/
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